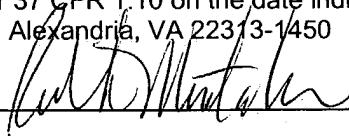


EXPRESS MAIL No.: **EV 304 049 815 US**

Deposited: **July 14, 2003**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



/ **Ruth Montalvo**

Date: **07/14/03**

**Customer No. 026418**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Docket No. **GK-HEF-963 / 500639.20030**

Applicant(s): **Thomas BLECHA**

Application No.:

Filed: **Concurrently herewith**

For: **LOAD-LOCK DEVICE FOR INTRODUCING SUBSTRATES INTO A VACUUM CHAMBER**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**S I R:**

Applicant herewith submits together with the simultaneously patent application this Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and hereby make of record the following references:

	Document Number	Date	Name and/or Country	English Translation
<b>AA</b>	<b>6,056,266</b>	<b>05/02/2000</b>	<b>Blecha</b>	
<b>AB</b>	<b>6,427,973</b>	<b>08/06/2002</b>	<b>Wagner</b>	
<b>AL</b>	<b>196 33 798</b>	<b>02/26/1998</b>	<b>Germany</b>	<b>Abstract only</b>

Accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement and form PTO-1449 are copies of the documents and the English Abstract. All document are is mentioned on page2 of the specification.

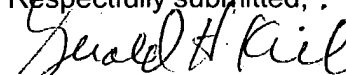
This submission is not an admission that the information disclosed in the documents is material to the patentability of the invention disclosed and/or claimed in the above-identified application.

07/14/03  
GHK:ram

Tel. (212) 521-5400

Enclosures:  
PTO-1449  
3 document  
English Abstract

Respectfully submitted, .



Gerald H. Kiel - Reg. No. 25,116  
Reed Smith LLP  
599 Lexington Avenue  
New York, NY 10022-7650

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**  
(Filed on July 14, 2003)

Docket No. GK-HEF-963 / 500639.20030

Applicant(s): Thomas BLECHA

Application No.

Group:

Filed: concurrently herewith – July 14, 2003

Examiner:

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Exam. Init		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date Appropriate
	AA	6,056,266	05/02/2000	Blecha			
	AB	6,427,973	08/06/2002	Wagner			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document Number	Date	Country	CLASS	Sub-Class	Translation YES NO
	AL	196 33 798	02/26/1998	Germany			Abstract only
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						

**OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	AV	
	AW	
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

Examiner:

Date: